

Message Text

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21

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-06 EUR-12 NEA-09 ISO-00 FEA-01

ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00

FPC-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01

PM-03 SAM-01 OES-03 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-03

PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 /122 W
----- 070989

P R 180855Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4462

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

C O N F I D E N T I A L STOCKHOLM 1874

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, OECD, SW

SUBJECT: PRODUCER/CONSUMER PREPCON: SWEDISH VIEW

SUMMARY. AT OUR INVITATION, HANS EWERLOF, MFA/COMMERCE
ENERGY OFFICER, PROVIDED PERSONAL VIEWS ON TERMINATION OF
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PRODUCER/CONSUMER PREPCON, WHICH HE SAID WERE SHARED BY

MANY IN GOS. FAILURE TO REACH AGREEMENT ON AGENDA HAD PERHAPS BEEN PRESAGED BY LDC POSITIONS AT DAKAR, ALGIERS, AND HAVANA, HE THOUGHT. CONSUMERS MAY NOT HAVE TAKEN THIS EVIDENCE SERIOUSLY ENOUGH. WIDE RANGE OF TOPICS WHICH LDCS WANTED ADDED TO AGENDA COULD FORCE CONSUMERS TO ASK WHETHER CONFERENCE, IF IT ALSO COVERED DIFFICULT NON-ENERGY TOPICS, WOULD BE IN THEIR INTEREST AT ALL. IN VIEW OF IMPORTANCE OF SEEKING GOOD FEELING BETWEEN CONSUMERS AND OPEC/LDC GROUPS, HE FAVORED CONTINUATION OF EFFORTS TO REACH ACCEPTABLE AGENDA THROUGH BILATERAL MEANS. EWERLOF SAID GOS WOULD WELCOME STOP-OVER BY ASSISTANT SECRETARY ENDERS ON ONE OF HIS EUROPEAN TRIPS TO DISCUSS ENERGY AND OTHER ECONOMIC MATTERS. END SUMMARY.

1. IN RESPONSE TO OUR INQUIRY ABOUT SWEDISH REACTION TO TERMINATION OF PRODUCER/CONSUMER PREPCON, HANS EWERLOF, MFA/COMMERCE OFFICER, PROVIDED APRIL 17 WHAT HE CAREFULLY LABELLED AS HIS PERSONAL VIEWS, NOTING, HOWEVER, THAT A NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN SWEDISH GOVERNMENT HELD SIMILAR ONES.

2. FAILURE OF MEETING TO REACH AGREEMENT ON AGENDA FOR FULL CONFERENCE, HE THOUGHT, WAS NOT ALTOGETHER SURPRISING IF ONE CONSIDERS EARLIER DIVERGENCE OF VIEWS WITHIN IEA ITSELF ON AGENDA AND INFORMATION KNOWN ABOUT LDC POSITIONS AT THEIR MEETINGS IN DAKAR, ALGIERS AND HAVANA. PERHAPS IEA MEMBERS DID NOT TAKE THIS EVIDENCE SERIOUSLY ENOUGH, TOOK TOO MUCH FOR GRANTED, AND ATTEMPTED TO DECIDE A LITTLE TOO MUCH BY THEMSELVES (SIC: A COMMON SWEDISH BARB).

3. ASPIRATIONS OF LDCS AT PREPCON WERE SOMEWHAT VASTER THAN HE HAD ANTICIPATED. THE SEVERAL ITEMS ADVANCED BY EACH LDC AS MATTERS DEMANDING CONSIDERATION OF FULL CONFERENCE ADDED UP TO "TERRIFYING" BUNDLE, HE THOUGHT. IF, IN END, ENERGY WERE TO BE ONLY ONE ITEM AMONG MANY DIFFICULT SUBJECTS FOR DISCUSSION, EWERLOF DOUBTED WHETHER CONSUMERS SHOULD GO AHEAD WITH A CONFERENCE AT ALL.

4. BLAME FOR FAILURE TO AGREE ON AN AGENDA SHOULD NOT
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BE PUT ON ANY PARTICULAR COUNTRY, HE SAID. SOME COUNTRIES HAD SIMPLY SHOWN THEMSELVES UNREADY FOR A CONFERENCE. FRENCH HAD BEEN OVER-OPTIMISTIC IN GIVING IMPRESSION THAT PREPARATORY WORK COULD BE CONCLUDED IN A DAY OR TWO. IT WAS IMPORTANT NOW TO PRESERVE GOOD FEELING BETWEEN CONSUMERS, PRODUCERS, AND LDCS, TO AVOID IMPRESSION THAT THERE HAS BEEN ANY SERIOUS CLASH OR CONFLICT, AND TO CONTINUE EFFORTS TO REACH AGREEMENT ON AGENDA THROUGH

BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS.

5. EWERLOF REGARDED NEXT MEETING OF IEA GOVERNING BOARD APRIL 28-29 AS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT. THERE, HE THOUGHT, IEA MEMBERS SHOULD CONSIDER CAREFULLY STEPS TO BE TAKEN. IN HIS VIEW, THEY WOULD DO WELL NOT TO RUSH INTO ACTION.

6. GOS HAS ASKED ITS POSTS IN COUNTRIES REPRESENTED AT PREPCON FOR VIEWS AND SUGGESTIONS OF HOST GOVERNMENTS.

7. EWERLOF ALSO INTENDS TO SEND LETTER TO AMBASSADOR WACHTMEISTER IN WASHINGTON TO INFORM HIM THAT GOS WOULD WELCOME HAVING ASSISTANT SECRETARY ENDERS STOP IN STOCKHOLM ON ONE OF HIS EUROPEAN TRIPS TO DISCUSS ENERGY AND PERHAPS OTHER ECONOMIC MATTERS AS WELL.

8. COMMENT. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT ASSISTANT SECRETARY ENDERS GIVE FAVORABLE CONSIDERATION TO THIS SUGGESTION. BRIEF STOP-OVER COULD PROVIDE USEFUL EXCHANGE WITH MINISTERS ANDERSSON (MFA), FELDT (COMMERCE), AND JOHANSSON (INDUSTRY) ON ENERGY AND DEMONSTRATE TO MUTUAL ADVANTAGE OF BOTH COUNTRIES PRACTICAL WORKING RELATIONSHIP EXISTING BETWEEN THEM.
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